# one Island

The community magazine for the Isle of Wight

Issue 36
June 2012

## A walking festival for all ages

## Round-up of 2012 event

Also inside:

Partner announced for £260 million Highways' PFI

Sarah's praise for 'amazing' charity

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

# WELCOME

## June edition of *One Island* magazine

Welcome to the June issue of *One Island* magazine. We would like to begin this edition by joining wellwishers from the Island and around the world in offering our warmest congratulations to the Queen on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee – and of course we look forward to Her Majesty's visit to the Island on 25 July as part of her jubilee tour.

In this issue of the magazine, we include a special progress report on the building projects to upgrade facilities at school sites around the Island – with two of the projects, at Cowes Enterprise College and Haylands Primary School, Ryde – due to open for pupils from this September.

We also focus on the exciting refurbishment schemes at our leisure centres – including The Heights in Sandown, Westridge in Ryde and Medina in Newport – all forming part of the council's Leisure Facility Improvement Plan.

## Advertising in One Island

More than 39,000 copies of *One Island* are distributed throughout the Island for each edition.

The magazine is published as an insert in the Isle of Wight County Press – with additional copies available in libraries, post offices, help centres, doctors' surgeries and other key locations.

If you would like to advertise in *One Island*, please contact us for more information and a copy of our rate card: Tel: 821000; Email: *oneisland@iow.gov.uk*

You can also download the rate card from *iwight.com*

## How to contact us

If you have community news to share with other readers, we would like to hear from you. We also welcome your letters.

You can contact us by post, email or telephone.

**Post** One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Team, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD

**Email** OneIsland@iow.gov.uk

**Telephone** 821000

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Isle of Wight Council, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD
**Fax:** 823333
**Email:**
customer.services@iow.gov.uk
**Website:** www.iwight.com

## TELEPHONE SERVICES

**Contact centre: 821000**
Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm
Saturday: 9am to 1pm

We recommend you call the contact centre initially, where we aim to answer as many enquiries as possible at this first point of contact.

**Popular numbers**

| | |
|---|---|
| Automated phone payments | 0207 1381970 |
| Building control | 823580 |
| Council tax | 823901 |
| Education | 823455 |
| Environmental health | 823000 |
| Housing benefits | 823950 |
| Leisure services | 823828 |
| Libraries | 203880 |
| Licensing | 823159 |
| Parking services | 823714 |
| Planning | 823552 |
| Refuse collection | 823777 |
| Registrars | 823233 |
| Roads and highways | 823777 |
| Tourism | 813813 |
| Trading standards | 823396 |
| Consumer Direct | 01622 626516 |

**Community services**

| | |
|---|---|
| Adult services | 823340 |
| (Adult duty, emergency) | 814980 |
| First response – Children's services (Mon to Thur: 9am to 5pm, Fri: 9am to 4.30pm) | 814374 |
| Housing | 823040 |

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**In an emergency dial 999**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire and rescue control centre | 525121 |

**Out of hours:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Waste disposal | 0800 3283851 |
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| All other council services | 821105 |

## FACE TO FACE SERVICES

### Newport Help Centre

County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD
Mon to Thur: 8.30am to 5pm
Fri: 8.30am to 4.30pm.

### Ryde Help Centre

**Tel:** 812678
Ryde Library, 101 George Street, Ryde PO33 2JE. Mon, Tues, Fri: 9am to 5pm.

### Sandown Help Centre

Council offices, Broadway, Sandown PO36 9EA.
Closed Tues.

### West Wight Help Centre

**Tel:** 756140
Freshwater Library, 41 School Green Road, Freshwater PO40 9AP. Tues only.

**Please ring 821000 to confirm opening times.**

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings are in public at County Hall. Call 823200 24 hours before a meeting to ensure it is going ahead.

**Council** (council chamber)
20 June (6pm)
18 July (6pm)
19 September (6pm)

**Cabinet** (council chamber)
14 August (6pm)
11 September (6pm)

**Planning Sub-committee** (council chamber)
26 June (4pm)
24 July (4pm)
28 August (4pm)
25 September (4pm)

**Audit Committee** (council chamber)
28 June (6pm)
27 September (6pm)

**Regulatory Committee** (council chamber)
11 June (4pm)
30 July (4pm)
10 September (4pm)

**Employment Committee** (council chamber)
11 June (10am)
24 September (10am)

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (council chamber)
9 August (5pm)
6 September (5pm)

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel** (council chamber)
11 July (5pm)
10 October (5pm)

**Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel** (council chamber)
4 July (5pm)
3 October (5pm)

**Health and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel** (council chamber)
27 June (5pm)
26 September (5pm)

## PARTNER CONTACTS

**NHS Isle of Wight**
Tel: (01983) 524081

**Police** Tel: 0845 45 45 45

**Rural Community Council**
Tel: (01983) 524058

# CONTENTS

FIRST WORD
Council and community news

4 Partner announced for £260 million Highways' PFI
4 A walking festival for all ages
4 Grant scheme helps local projects
5 Record medal haul at World Games
5 Getting your council news online
6 Job hopes boosted for Island youngsters
7 *Blue Peter* helps celebrate Olympic torch visit
7 Voting for new police commissioners
9 More affordable homes for Islanders
9 Don't jump into the unknown

FEATURES

8 Big investment in leisure centres
Spotlight on major upgrade scheme
10 School report
At the heart of our communities
12 Sarah's thanks to 'amazing' charity
Road to recovery for young Island woman

SUPPLEMENTS

13 The Island's NHS
Health service news

15 TIME & PLACE
Events and activities


**Cover picture:** Walking festival fun for Sofia and Maisy (*see festival round-up, page 4*)

This magazine is available on request as an audio recording, in large print and online at www.iwight.com For further details, please contact One Island on 821000.


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One Island is a community magazine produced by the Isle of Wight Council with its key public sector partners – NHS Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Police (Hampshire Constabulary) and the Isle of Wight Rural Community Council.

# Highways' PFI scheme to start in April 2013

**Vinci Concessions and Ringway have been chosen as the council's Highways' Private Finance Initiative (PFI) partner.**

The PFI contract involves the comprehensive upgrade and maintenance of the Island's road, footway, public lighting, CCTV and cycleway network – as well as plans to stabilise the highway at the Military Road, Niton Undercliff and Bouldnor Road. There will be similar work to address ground movement at other highway sites and 124 separate drainage schemes.

Also Included are the council's roadside verge and winter maintenance programmes and street cleansing.

Improvements to the street lighting network will include LED bulbs which will reduce energy consumption and therefore cost by 40 per cent.

The PFI is financed in the main through a £260 million government grant (net present value) – not a loan. The council will make an annual contribution which is less than that currently spent providing the services to be delivered through the PFI.

Work will begin in April 2013 and the bulk of the Island's roads with be upgraded in the first seven years of the contract in a schedule designed to minimise disruption.

Stuart Love, council director of economy and environment, said: "The contract will dramatically improve the transport infrastructure in a way that benefits the local economy while being mindful of the environment."

• Vinci Concessions designs, finances, builds and operates all kinds of public infrastructure worldwide while Ringway, which already undertakes the Island's winter roads maintenance programme, is a market leader in providing highway-related infrastructure services to local councils.

The contractor is providing bursaries to help four Islanders to gain university qualifications in civil engineering – as well as numerous opportunities for apprenticeships.

**See *One Island* and *iwight.com* for PFI developments**

*One Island* will feature regular extensive updates covering all aspects of the Highways' PFI – complementing details provided on *iwight.com*, Facebook and Twitter.

# A walking festival for all ages

**Thousands of walkers helped make the 2012 Isle of Wight Walking Festival a great success – despite some challenging weather conditions.**

Walkers of all ages – from the Island, all over the UK and overseas – once again gave magnificent support to the event, even in the face of occasional torrential rain.

The 14th annual festival, from 5 to 20 May, started on a high note, with the spectacle of daredevil walkers treading courses of fire and glass in St Thomas' Square, Newport.

Close to 250 walks – taking in a great variety of locations and themes – were staged during the festival. The walks ranged from the epic 72-mile coastal path walk to the popular Giant Toddle at Appley, Ryde *(see front page picture)*. The annual speed-dating walk at Shanklin attracted 86 participants.

The overseas walkers came from nations ranging from Denmark to Poland and Japan to the USA. Eric Stackhouse from Nova Scotia, Canada even chose the last day of his trip to the UK to walk on fire in Newport.

• Don't forget the walking festival's popular Autumn Walking Weekend, which this year takes place from 26 to 29 October. A full programme of walks is available from August, which you will be able to view online at *www.isleofwightwalkingfestival.co.uk*

# *Local projects supported by improvement fund*

**Schemes put forward by town and parish councils across the Island have been benefiting from a £250,000 'match funding' economic improvement fund.**

The Isle of Wight Council fund, set up at the start of this year, received bids from 29 parish and town councils for a variety of projects.

Match funding has been approved for 74 projects within these bids, ranging from public realm projects such as seating, signposting and noticeboards to upgrading community facilities.

Among the projects supported have been: the provision of signposting for Brighstone Community Library (£182); an outdoor fitness area and equipment at Totland (£6,164); and creating an area of land for community use at Godshill (£2,751).

More details of the successful projects can be found at *www.iwight.com*

# Record medal success for young Islanders

**Pictured:** Medal winners *(left to right)*, Izzy Blacklock, Harrison Curling, Thomas Newnham, Kieran Phillips and Charlotte Skeggs

**A record-equalling haul of nine medals was achieved by a team of young Isle of Wight athletes at the annual World Island Youth Games in Sardinia.**

The event attracted 700 competitors aged 11 to 17 from 11 islands, including 20 from the Isle of Wight.

It is the ninth time the Island has entered a team – and this year was the first time it has won swimming medals. The Island equalled its best previous haul.

The medal winners were:

**Athletics**

- Charlotte Skeggs, high jump (gold).
- Harrison Curling, 1500 metres (silver), 3000 metres (silver), 800 metres (bronze);
- Thomas Newnham, 2000 metres steeplechase (bronze);
- Kieran Phillips, hammer (bronze).

**Swimming**

- Izzy Blacklock, 100 metres backstroke (gold), 50 metres backstroke (gold), 200 metres backstroke (gold).

# See Facebook and Twitter for your council news

facebook twitter

Did you know the Isle of Wight Council runs both a Facebook and a Twitter account to help provide the latest information about council services straight to your PC or Internet-enabled phone?

To benefit from the service, all you need to do is go to *www.facebook.com/isleofwightcouncil* and 'like' the page, or go to *www.twitter.com/iwight* and follow us.

The pages provide information covering a range of council events and news, including services affected by weather warnings.

# Register office reminder

**People wanting to register a birth, death, marriage or civil partnership on the Island are being reminded that the register office is now based at the council offices at Seaclose, Newport *(pictured)*.**

The service moved to Seaclose in 2011, but people are occasionally still turning up at the former location, Northwood House, Cowes.

No registration service is available at Northwood House.

A reminder is also being issued to medical centres and care homes, some of which have still been directing people to the former venue.

If you have any registration queries, you should contact the register office at Seaclose, Newport, tel: 823233, or visit *www.iwight.com*

# New council chairman

**Councillor Susan Scoccia has been elected as the council's new chairman for 2012/2013.**

Councillor Scoccia, member for Ventnor West, replaces Councillor David Williams, who has completed his term of office.

The council chairman is its civic head and chairs meetings of the full council. The position is non-political, and as well as being responsible for the council's civic affairs, the role includes promoting public involvement in the council's activities.

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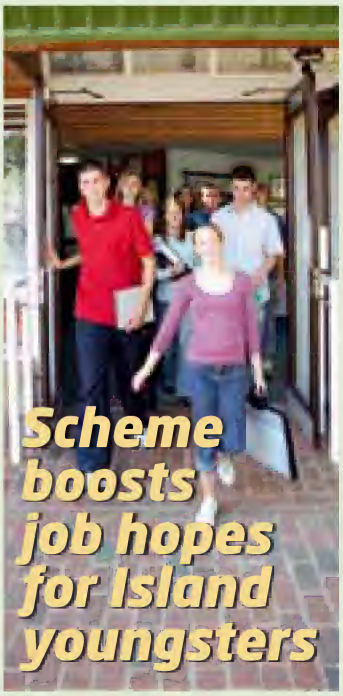


## Scheme boosts job hopes for Island youngsters

**Nearly 30 young Islanders are being helped onto the employment ladder thanks to a growing council initiative.**

The pre-apprenticeship scheme was launched last year to help reduce the number of young people aged 16 to 19 who were classified as NEETs – Not in Education, Employment or Training.

So far, 29 young people have been found pre-apprenticeship placements and of those, three have already been taken on as full apprentices. The scheme has helped bring about a steady month on month drop in the level of NEETs from 5.2 per cent in December to 4.5 per cent in April – which means the Island's figure is below the national average.

Each potential placement is researched by the council, co-operating closely with work-based training providers to ensure both the young person and the business will benefit.

Andrew Briggs, commissioning manager for 14 to 19 in education and skills, said he had been impressed by the number and positive attitudes of those joining the scheme and by the willingness of employers to take part.

"When the scheme was first considered we envisaged 40 places becoming available, but such has been the popularity, we are currently looking to find 60 placements. This really is a good example of the council working closely with training providers and local companies to offer practical support for young Islanders."

While the aim is to secure a full apprenticeship, even those unsuccessful in that respect will emerge with at least three things that will help them gain work in the future: an employer's reference, general employment skills and something to add to their CV.

During the pre-apprenticeship period the young people are given financial assistance by the council, and the employer is rewarded by having a six month work placement. The employer is encouraged after this period to take on the young person as a full apprentice.

The council has allocated £100,000 to support the scheme.

## Major grants for Island schools

**Four Island schools are to receive substantial government grants for repairs and improvements, it has been announced.**

Carisbrooke College, Christ the King College in Newport, Oakfield CE Primary School in Ryde and Ryde Academy will all receive capital funding from the £2 billion Priority School Building Programme fund.

The bids for Carisbrooke College and Oakfield CE Primary were submitted on behalf of the schools by the Isle of Wight Council.

The improvements will add to the money already spent in building new schools and improving others as part of the wider school reorganisation programme *(see School Report feature)*.

## Help befriend a neighbour in need

**An older people's charity which supports thousands of people across the UK and Ireland is looking for new volunteers on the Isle of Wight.**

Independent Age is looking for people to support and deliver its home befriending service on the Island – a service which helps tackle loneliness and poverty among older people.

Befrienders offer information, advice and friendship on a regular basis to those they are matched with – usually someone living nearby. Support may vary from dropping in for a regular chat to arranging a trip to the local shops.

Volunteers may give as little or as much time as they can spare, and will be playing a key role in brightening up someone else's life.

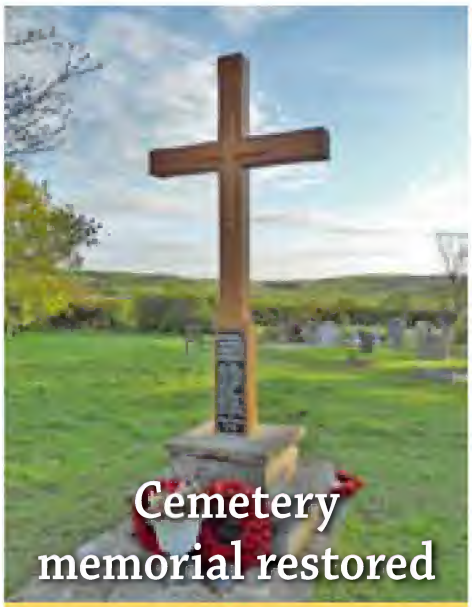
To find out more you can contact Jane O'Kelly, Independent Age area manager for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, tel: 01264 362872, email: *jane.okelly@independentage.org.uk*

• Independent Age was founded nearly 150 years ago as the United Kingdom Beneficent Association, and has more than 1,500 volunteers across the UK and Ireland. Its work focuses on: help with care at home, in hospital and residential homes; welfare benefits and entitlements; and its befriending and social support service.

**Don't forget to mark the dates in your diary for this year's Isle of Wight Cycling Festival – which takes place from 22 to 30 September.**

The 2012 festival – sponsored by Mio Cyclo, the council, Wightlink, Matrix Create, the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Clif Bar (a food product) – will feature more than 60 different rides, including the British Heart Foundation Cycle the Wight event on Saturday 29 September.

The full programme of rides for the festival is available from June. More information can be found at *www.sunseaandcycling.com*



## Cemetery memorial restored

**A memorial at Ashey Cemetery, Ryde to those who lost their lives in the First World War, has been restored to pristine condition.**

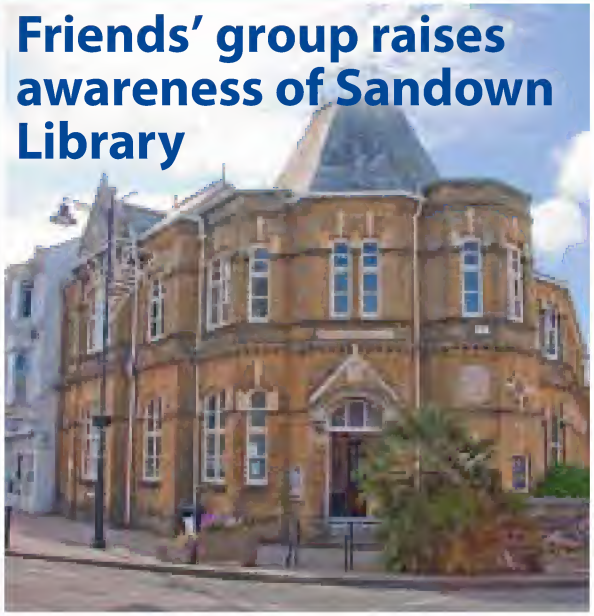
The commemorative cross had suffered due to years of exposure to the elements and was starting to pose a risk to those visiting the cemetery.

The council's bereavement services commissioned a local carpenter from Meano's Joinery in Cowes to restore the cross using traditional English oak.

Repairs were also carried out to the stone work, and the original bronze memorial plaque naming the fallen was re-enamelled.

To complete the restoration project, new gates, also from English oak, were fitted at the cemetery entrance.

## Friends' group raises awareness of Sandown Library



**A new friends' group has been set up to support and raise funds for Sandown Library.**

The Friends of Sandown Library, a non-profit making community group, is staging various events to support the library in the High Street.

Press officer, Laura Higham, said: "It is our ambition to raise awareness within the community about the many resources and events that the library has on offer, such as bi-weekly creative writing classes, computer lessons, knit and natters and much more."

More details about the Friends of Sandown Library can be found at:

- *friendsofsandownlibrary.blogspot.co.uk*;
- *www.facebook.com/FriendsofSandownLibrary*

Sandown Library is one of six council-run libraries on the Island, complemented by five libraries operated by community groups or town councils. Several of the council libraries are supported by dedicated friends' groups.

## Voting for new police commissioners – look out for your registration form

**On 15 November this year new police and crime commissioners will be elected for England and Wales.**

Electors in Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight will be among those able to vote for a commissioner for their police force area.

To make sure the Island's register of electors is as accurate as possible for the November election, the annual canvass is being brought forward, with voter registration forms delivered to all 70,000 residential properties in late June. Island electors are reminded to return their forms as soon as they can.

The updated register will be published in October and will also be used for the elections to the Isle of Wight Council and town and parish councils in May 2013.

The registration form allows people to make changes to the names of those registered as electors at the address – and even if there have been no changes to the people living in your household, it is vital the form is returned.

The canvass form also allows you to request an application form to vote by post.

Please return your form by 6 August to avoid a reminder being sent. If your household has not received a form by the end of June, please telephone the Electoral Services office at the council on 821000.

## Blue Peter's Big Olympic Tour to visit Isle of Wight

**It is five weeks and counting to the arrival of the Olympic torch on the Isle of Wight on Saturday 14 July.**

The torch is visiting the Island as part of its national tour in advance of the 2012 games in London – and as well as the torch procession, BBC TV's *Blue Peter* is staging a special event at Osborne House to mark the occasion.

The torch will be arriving in Yarmouth on 14 July and will be taken to the Needles before being carried to Newport and then East Cowes. Along the way, it will be carried by dozens of local torch bearers.

Full details of the route and official timings can be found at *www.iwight.com/olympictorchrelay*

To coincide with the torch visit to the Island, *Blue Peter's* Big Olympic Tour will be staged in the grounds of Osborne House on 14 July. In the morning there will be a live broadcast by *Blue Peter* from the site, for a ticket-only audience. This will be followed by a free event from 10am to 4pm which is open to families.

For more information visit *www.bbc.co.uk/bluepeter*

# A new look for Island leisure centres

**Three of the Island's major leisure facilities are being upgraded over the coming months as part of a significant investment project. Here we take a look at the changes…**

## The Heights Leisure Centre, Sandown

Work has been moving ahead on the extensive refurbishment of The Heights at Sandown.

Since the project began in January, the contractors have gutted all the rooms in the first phase, and have built and started to render new partition walls to the wet changing rooms. They have also started to put in utility services in these areas, and install suspended ceilings, as well as pipework for the swimming pools and a new balance tank.

Foundations and the steel frame for the new gym have also been completed.

There have been some delays relating to the specialist roof construction above both the main and teaching pools. The roof had been originally earmarked for repair, but further detailed survey work revealed its condition to be worse than anticipated, and so replacement is now required.

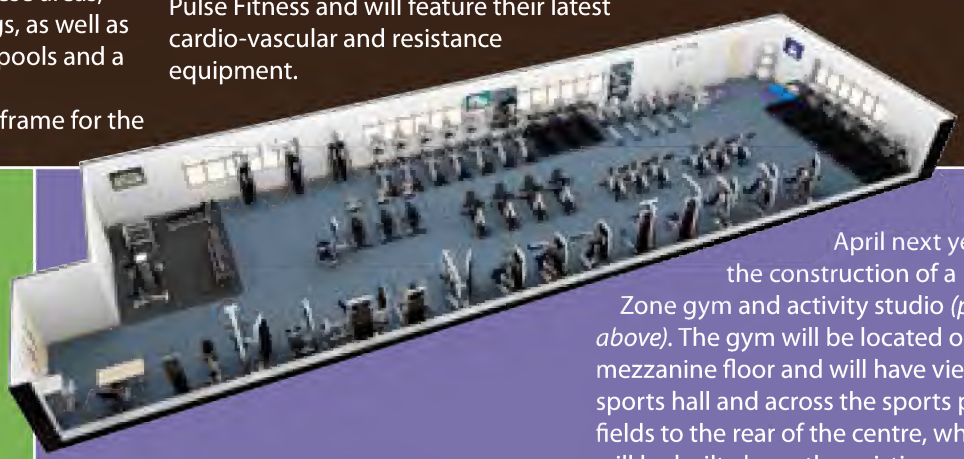
As a result of the additional works, the swimming pools and the new larger Tone Zone gym will be open to the public in early October.

The new gym will be equipped by Pulse Fitness and will feature their latest cardio-vascular and resistance equipment.

The refurbished pool will be deck level (as at Medina Leisure Centre) – a modern standard for pool construction which is more efficient to operate and gives users increased accessibility.

The second phase of the project, including refurbishment of the health suite and construction of new larger dry side changing rooms is now scheduled to re-open in February 2013.

New pool and activity class programmes and exciting offers are being planned to coincide with the re-opening after completion of both phases.



## Westridge Squash and Tone Zone Gym, Ryde

A new larger Tone Zone gym is under construction at Westridge, Ryde – using the area formerly occupied by the boxing club at the rear of the centre.

Work is due to be completed by mid-October and the new gym will replace the existing facility in the former squash court. The gym will also be equipped by Pulse Fitness and will feature a comprehensive range of equipment suitable for everyone.

The new gym follows the first phase of works at Westridge last year, which focused on the refurbishment of the seven squash courts and changing rooms – in advance of Westridge hosting the squash competition at the 2011 NatWest Island Games.

## Medina Leisure Centre, Newport

In mid-September, a three-phased project for the refurbishment of Medina Leisure Centre at Newport will begin.

The phasing of the project is designed to minimise disruption and ensure the council can continue to provide swimming facilities.

The first phase will run until late January 2013 and will include the refurbishment of the pool tank and pool hall. Complete remodelling of the wet side changing rooms will include two new fully accessible changing rooms, one of which will be equipped with a ceiling mounted track hoist for customers with severe mobility issues.

Also included is the refurbishment of the reception area and first floor cafeteria and the construction of an extension to the arboretum car park.

Phase two, from December until the end of April next year, will see the construction of a new Tone Zone gym and activity studio *(pictured above)*. The gym will be located on a new mezzanine floor and will have views into the sports hall and across the sports pitches and fields to the rear of the centre, while the studio will be built above the existing male and female dry side changing rooms. The first floor bar and toilets will also be refurbished during this phase, providing more up-to-date facilities for Medina Theatre.

The final phase will include the construction of new female dry side changing rooms, a multi-use meeting and training room and refurbishment of the main public areas, offices and foyer.

Detailed plans and 3D images of the facility are on display in the foyer at Medina Leisure Centre, together with customer information leaflets advising how it will impact on users and the interim measures put in place to limit the disruption.

• Information and images can also be viewed at *www.iwight.com/leisure*, together with regular updates on the planned work.

The works at Medina are the final element of the council's major Leisure Facility Improvement Plan.

## Join the *One Journey* challenge

**Hundreds of Island residents have been able to improve their wellbeing and fitness over recent years, thanks to the popular One Journey programme at the council's three Tone Zone gyms.**

**Pictured:** One Journey prize draw winner, Pauline Quinton *(right)*, receives prize vouchers from Lizzie Phipps, Tone Zone instructor

One Journey involves a six-week programme of five one-to-one specially-tailored appointments with a trained fitness instructor.

If you have not yet taken up the challenge, it is never too late.

To enrol on your own One Journey, call or visit your nearest Tone Zone gym at Medina Leisure Centre, Newport, The Heights, Sandown or Westridge Squash and Tone Zone, Ryde – and arrange a day and time to be shown around. You can also discuss your requirements and membership options.

When you sign up for One Journey and take out a One Card, don't forget to fill in a 'WIN' card. This enters you for popular quarterly draws – prizes have included spa treatments, sports vouchers and iPods.

# More affordable homes for the Island

**More than 200 new affordable homes were provided by the council on the Island last year.**

The actual figure of 205 new homes was just over double the target of 100 for 2011/2012 – and took in a range of locations across the Island.

The schemes included:

- a rural scheme of ten units at Brading by Southern Housing Group;
- eight units of housing suitable for disabled people next to Southern Quarter, Oakfield, Ryde, by Southern Housing Group;
- 15 one and two bed flats handed over to Spectrum Housing at Ryde;
- 42 mostly two bed apartments completed at Hawthorn Meadows, East Cowes, and 26 two and three bed houses for discounted market sale;
- at Pan Meadows Newport *(pictured)*, 74 two, three and four bed homes, of which nine were shared ownership;
- 20 affordable homes at Victoria Walk, East Cowes, of which 11 were shared ownership.

Looking ahead, even more affordable homes are due to be provided over the next year or so, including 26 older persons' apartments at Freshwater through Southern Housing Group; a further 34 affordable homes at Victoria Walk, East Cowes; and 65 more units at Pan Meadows, Newport.

The council is also working closely with land owners, government agencies and housing associations to ensure further schemes can be put into place for the future.

# Don't jump into the unknown

A strong warning has been issued for anyone who dives into or swims in Ryde Harbour - *don't do it* as you risk prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

The message is intended to protect people from the danger of serious injury from 'tombstoning'.

CCTV cameras with facial recognition technology will spot anyone who defies the ban – and the council will work with police to identify offenders and has the power to prosecute.

There are warning signs around the harbour and a PA system is also used to provide warnings.

Tombstoning is a high-risk activity and over recent years a number of people have been killed or seriously injured. Many of the non-fatal incidents have resulted in life-changing spinal and limb injuries.

It is important to remember that water depths alter with the tide. There is only six feet of water in Ryde Harbour at high tide and less than a metre at other times.

Parents are being reminded of the dangers to their children and the warning message is also being sent out to schools.

*Don't think "it won't happen to me" – it can. Don't jump into the unknown!*

# At the heart of our communities

**Pictured above and opposite:** Haylands Primary School, Ryde is on course for a September opening

Communities across the Island can look on with pride at new and refurbished schools that have been taking shape in their midst.

The transformations range from entirely new schools to extensions and upgrades – all linked to the changeover (since last September) to a two-tier system of primary and secondary schools.

The two-tier approach and high quality facilities are crucial factors in the drive to raise educational standards for current and future generations of Island schoolchildren.

The latest stunning new schools to near completion as part of the overall school reorganisation project, are the £30 million One School Pathfinder project at Cowes and the £6 million new Haylands Primary School at Ryde.

Both will welcome pupils from September this year, to be followed not long after by the opening of the new St Francis Primary School at Ventnor, in January 2013.

The new-look Cowes Enterprise College is due to be handed over by contractor Pihl in late July/early August. Fitting out of the new school is at an advanced stage – and two eye-catching features soon to be unveiled are the piazza-style entrance to the school and the bio-diverse roof featuring many plant species native to the Island.

The state of the art school is designed to provide a modern learning environment – featuring facilities including a 650-seat conference centre/ auditorium, multi-use games areas, a green gym, early years' provision and outdoor amphitheatre – all for the community to enjoy when not in school use.

The occupation of the new school with all pupils will be from September.

At Haylands Primary, on the former Swanmore Middle upper field, work has been progressing ahead of schedule – and the impressive new school can now be seen standing proudly overlooking the Ashey Road and Bettesworth Road area.

The school, built by contractor Willmott Dixon Construction, will be opened and ready for pupils in early September, with a formal opening ceremony later in the month. The old Haylands Primary site in Playstreet Lane is earmarked as possible extra accommodation for Ryde Academy.

At St Francis Primary (on the former Ventnor Middle site), the steel frame for the new school has been erected and the roof has been going on in recent weeks. The school is due to be handed over in December and operational from January next year.

The St Francis project recently won a bronze award in the Considerate Constructors' National Site Awards 2012. It is also a scheme by Willmott Dixon Construction – the national firm which has been the council's framework partner for the overall project, supported by many Island-based contractors.

Funding for all the schemes is provided from a mixture of government sources and funds generated from the sale of surplus school sites – which are being invested back into Island school facilities.

> "The Cowes, Haylands and St Francis schools will be magnificent facilities of which their communities can be very proud. The quality of these schemes reflects the professional manner in which the contractors and sub-contractors have undertaken the work and is of particular credit to them all.
>
> These sentiments can be extended to the extension and upgrade projects at other school sites – and as we move into further phases of the overall scheme we are determined these standards will be maintained."
>
> *Janet Newton, project director for the council*

**Here are some updates on progress with other key aspects of the project:**

## New sites and upgrades for primary schools

Three Island primary schools will be moving to begin a new life at refurbished former middle school sites after the June half-term break.

Broadlea Primary will be moving to the former Lake Middle site, Lanesend Primary, Cowes to the former Somerton Middle, and Hunnyhill Primary, Newport to the former Kitbridge Middle.

The final remaining primary school to switch to an upgraded former middle school, Bembridge Primary, will move to the old Forelands Middle site from September.

Meanwhile, extension and alteration projects have been continuing at various primary school sites, including:

- Niton Primary School – an impressive two classroom extension was opened for use in April;
- Wootton Primary School – a two classroom extension is due to be ready following the October half-term break, as is a two classroom extension and extension to the hall for Carisbrooke (C of E) Primary School;
- Summerfield Primary School, Newport – internal alterations and work on a courtyard are due to be ready by September.

## 'Sunesis' schools for Gatten and Lake and The Bay

The planning application for a new-build Gatten and Lake Primary School was approved on 31 May, and the project will now go ahead once a number of conditions have been met.

The new-look 210-place primary school – on the school's former detached playing field site – will replace the existing Gatten and Lake school. The school is scheduled to be up and running following Easter 2013.

The new Gatten and Lake school is a pre-designed 'Sunesis' project – a cost-effective way of building a new school to an adjustable traditional-build template, but including individual features.

A planning application has also been submitted for another Sunesis-style school, for The Bay (C of E) Primary School, Sandown, combining the Grove Road and Carter Street schools to create a single site for the new Bay Primary School on the current Grove Road site.

## Special schools

A six-week consultation began on 11 May into plans to provide enhanced and improved facilities for Island children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Two surplus primary school sites – at Love Lane, Cowes and Broadlea, Sandown – are earmarked to provide pupil referral units, WISE* workshops and a new Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulty (BESD) school. These schools would replace the pupil referral units at Thompson House at Whitecroft, the Clatterford Tuition Centre at the St George's/Watergate site in Newport, and the WISE workshops at Dodnor and Sandown.

The consultation, at *www.iwight.com/sen*, runs until 21 June and a decision on the resulting proposals is due to be made by the council's Cabinet in September.

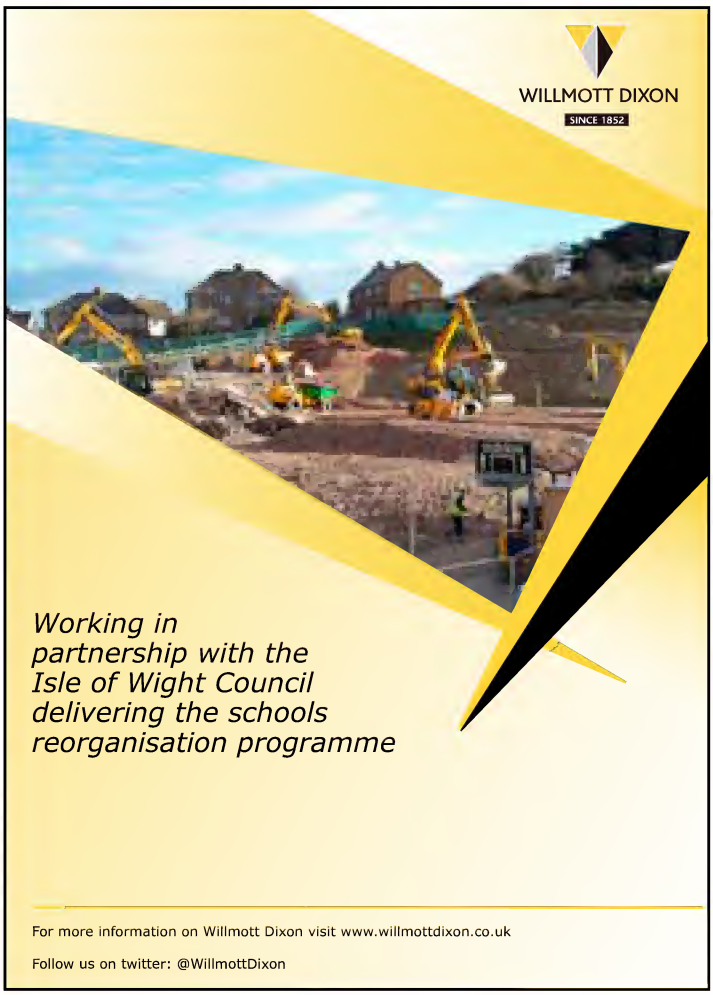
**WISE is a workshop initiative for supporting education.*

## More information

For more information you can visit the 'school reorganisation' section on *iwight.com*

For planning details about school building projects see 'planning online' on *iwight.com*

ADVERTISEMENT



# Sarah's thanks to 'amazing' charity

**Recent times have been very tough for young Island woman Sarah Dawes, as she battled to overcome an addiction to drugs and alcohol. Here she pays tribute to the vital role the charity the Real World Trust and family and friends, have played in her recovery**

Sarah Dawes is quick to offer genuine thanks to a charity which, she says without hesitation, has saved her life.

Twenty-seven year old Sarah had a bright future ahead of her until she became trapped in a downward spiral of addiction.

Sitting in the reassuring surroundings of the Real World's Trust residential centre at Butler Gardens, Shanklin, she bluntly admits: "I would have been dead without their help. They have turned my life around."

Sarah's rehabilitation at Butler Gardens has been assisted by the council's Supporting People arm, which commissions support services from the trust.

Today she has renewed confidence and hope for the future after almost two years of support at Butler Gardens.

It is a far cry from when she first arrived at the centre in 2010 and finally admitted she had an addiction.

Sarah, who grew up on the Island, had been to Plymouth University to study for a degree in animal science, behaviour and welfare. She had a promising future ahead of her – but then things started to go downhill.

"I used to go partying and started with cannabis and alcohol and then moved on to anything I could get my hands on," admitted Sarah. What started in a small way soon worsened to something she could neither admit nor overcome.

She completed her three year degree course, but when she returned to the Island her life really started to spin out of control. She was drawn further and further into her drug addiction, and like many addicts didn't think she had a problem.

"I was taking things from first thing in the morning and all through the day, but I didn't think there was a problem." Because of the addiction she couldn't settle down to do anything long-term, although she did manage a bit of shop work.

"People were telling me I needed to be honest with myself," said Sarah, but it wasn't until she was referred to the Real World Trust by NHS-linked organisation Acknowledging Early Signs of Psychosis (Aesop), that she was able to tackle her problem head on.

"I had been back on the Island for about a year when Aesop referred me. I came to Butler Gardens on respite care for a week, having been living with my parents, and following an assessment they said they would take me on permanently."

Sarah has been at Butler Gardens on and off since her referral in 2010 and admits it has transformed her life.

"What they have done for me has been amazing. I'm off drugs completely, I feel far stronger in myself and I am determined not to get back into that way of life."

It has helped her greatly that many of those guiding her at Butler Gardens have been through similar problems themselves.

Her support from the trust has included groups helping with anxiety and anger management, assertiveness and relapse prevention.

"The groups have been a great help and have given me my confidence back," said Sarah, who has also had help with general life skills including cooking and managing money. Butler Gardens has also provided her with a residential and reassuring base to nurture her recovery.

"I'm doing really well now and am looking for a flat at the moment, which the trust is helping me with."

Sarah has also been developing a potential new career – in photography. This has led to an exhibition of her work at Quay Arts, Newport in June and her natural creativity has also prompted her to write poetry, which she is hoping to have published.

"I can't thank the trust and all the staff enough for what they have done for me," said Sarah, who admits the greatest reward from defeating her addiction, has been the chance to share valuable time with her two young nieces.

"That has been the best thing of all," she said.

## The Real World Trust

The Real World Trust is an Isle of Wight-based charity which helps vulnerable people, particularly those with addictions and mental health issues.

It initially opened a four-bed care home in Newport in 1992 (which later closed), and then a drop-in centre in Ryde in 1996.

In November 1999, Butler Gardens at Shanklin – a ten-bed residential facility – was officially opened and since then the trust has developed several other services, including a workshop at Sandown and a positive engagement team to help people with independent living.

The council's Supporting People team commissions services from the trust.

## Awards recognise accessible services for young people

Young Islanders who have been involved in the assessment of young people's health services, held their awards evening recently to recognise those services which have achieved accreditation to the Department of Health's 'You're Welcome' quality standards.

The *Check It Out IW* group also launched their new website – *www.checkitout-iw.org* with online live chat for young people with the health service.

Awards were made to nine services on the Island, including four GP surgeries, two services provided by the Isle of Wight NHS Trust, the Isle of Wight Youth Trust, and two pharmacies.

Rachael Hayes, commissioner for Children's Services, said: "The awards are the result of two years hard work by the young people involved. Including young people in assessing the quality and accessibility of services is an important way to ensure that the services provided meet the needs of patients."

Island young people aged 11 to 19 who are interested in improving Island services and would like more information should ring (01983) 534316 or email: *rachael.hayes@iow.nhs.uk*

## Feeling unwell? Remember to choose well!

It is important everyone on the Island knows how to get the right help, from the right place, at the right time from the NHS.

Remember that your pharmacist as well as your GP can offer expert advice, and the new health advice line, NHS 111, is only a telephone call away.

You can also find health advice online at *www.nhs.uk* – an early enquiry can help prevent a crisis later.

Choosing the right service helps to reduce the pressure on emergency services and ensures they are available for those who really need them.

Unless it is an emergency, anyone with symptoms of vomiting or diarrhoea should not visit NHS buildings until 48 hours after the symptoms have cleared.

Also remember, good hand hygiene at all times helps reduce the risk of spreading infection. Cough and sneeze into a tissue and then bin it! Visit *www.iow.nhs.uk/choosewell* to find the service appropriate to your needs.

## Islanders with persistent coughs urged to visit their GP

If you have had a persistent cough for three weeks or more, visit your GP.

Despite the disease killing more people than any other form of cancer in England, only one in ten people know that a persistent cough for three weeks or more could be a symptom of lung cancer.

Other symptoms of lung cancer include coughing up blood, persistent shoulder pain, repeated chest infections and breathlessness.

The earlier lung cancer is diagnosed, the better the chance of survival. When diagnosed at its earliest stage, as many as 80 per cent of people live five years after diagnosis, compared with only seven per cent diagnosed at a later stage.

The majority of cases occur in people over the age of 55. Although smoking is known to cause an increased risk of lung cancer, around one in eight people diagnosed have never smoked.

Island GP Dr David Isaac from the Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "It is a common belief that cancer is a death sentence. This really isn't the case and dispelling that myth could save lives. If caught early, cancer is treatable and early diagnosis is extremely important with lung cancer. Therefore, if you have had a cough for the past three weeks or more, you must visit your GP to get checked out.

"Sadly some patients don't act on worrying symptoms for months and do not visit their GP. It's very straightforward for your GP to examine you and determine whether to send you for further tests.

"If your GP wants to exclude the possibility of lung cancer, you will see a specialist within two weeks and they will then arrange for further tests and, if necessary, treatment.

"You will either get reassurance that it isn't lung cancer, or you will find out it is and have a better chance of survival."

For more information about the signs and symptoms of lung cancer, please visit *www.nhs.uk/lungcancer*

# Helping patients to get better, fitter, quicker

**Pictured:** Island healthcare staff (and a volunteer) at St Mary's Hospital on Nurses Day 2012

Healthcare staff at the new Isle of Wight NHS Trust recently showcased what they are doing to reduce the physical stress of an operation.

The Enhanced Recovery Programme is about improving patients experience and their recovery after surgery. It focuses on making sure that patients are actively involved in their own recovery process and are mobilised as soon as possible.

Sue Biggs, matron at St Mary's Hospital, Newport, said: "The programme brings together two best practices – organisation of care and clinical management.

"More focus is given to pre-operative assessment, planning and preparation before admission and patients and their families are involved in the planning and management of the recovery phase."

The Enhanced Recovery Programme at St Mary's Hospital is led by a multi-disciplinary team of professionals which includes surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses, allied health professionals and NHS managers. The team work together to ensure less invasive surgical techniques can be used wherever possible, and pain relief and the management of fluids and diet are considered which help patients to get on their feet quicker and be better prepared to manage when they are back at home.

The programme has been in place within the areas of major colorectal and gynaecology surgery since mid 2010 and, most recently, orthopaedics.

The improvements made have empowered and educated patients, improved the delivery of quality care and resulted in a noticeable reduction in length of stay, resulting in positive outcomes for all.

Plans are now in place to introduce the principles of the Enhanced Recovery Programme to other specialties including urology, maternity, acute medicine and for day case procedures.

It is hoped that the programme can be expanded to include emergency surgery and trauma care.

## 2012 Primary Care Awards recognise excellence

The recently held Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Primary Care Awards recognised excellence in primary care across the Island. The award recipients were:

- **Primary Care Educator of the Year** – Catherine Ward, Isle of Wight Primary Care Trust;
- **Practice Nurse of the Year** – Carol Salter, Tower House, Ryde;
- **Practice Support of the Year** – Prison Healthcare Team;
- **Commissioner of the Year** – Sarah Rochford, CCG;
- **Employee of the Year** – Dot Hippel, Brookside Health Centre;
- **Practice Manager of the Year** – Lisa Burtenshaw, Beacon Health Centre, Newport;
- **Survival Award** – Dr George Thomson, Brookside Health Centre;
- **GP of the Year** – Dr David Isaac, Carisbrooke Health Centre;
- **Practice of the Year** – Sandown Health Centre *(pictured)*.

Special recognition 'Hero Awards' were made to Ruth Williams, Argyle House, Ryde; Jo Barnes/Teresa Day from the Isle of Wight Primary Care Trust and Dr Mark Denman-Johnson, Beacon Health Centre.

The event, held at Cowes Yacht Haven, was attended by 260 guests and the audience used handheld voting technology to decide the winner for each category from the shortlisted entries.

NHS

Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group

**NHS Continuing Healthcare**

**Introduction of deadlines for requests for assessments of eligibility for cases during the period 2004-2012**

On 15 March 2012, the Department of Health announced the introduction of deadlines for new cases which require assessment of eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare funding.

The deadlines apply to previously un-assessed periods of care, which occurred in the following time periods:

| Period | Deadline |
|---|---|
| 1 April 2004 – 30 September 2007 | 30 September 2012 |
| 1 October 2007 – 31 March 2011 | 30 September 2012 |
| 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012 | 31 March 2013 |

Individuals should contact the NHS Funded Care Team at the Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group for further information on how to notify the PCT of a request for assessment of eligibility. This notification should be given within the deadlines above. Some cases may be accepted after the dates outlined above if there are exceptional circumstances for doing so.

NHS Funded Care Team, IW Clinical Commissioning Group,
Ground Floor, South Block, St Mary's Hospital,
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG
Tel: 01983 552470 Email: nhsfundedcare@iow.nhs.uk

## ACTIVITIES

**Jubilee Tea**
(10 June)
Afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, All Saints' Church, Godshill, 3pm.

**Annual Patronal Festival**
(17 June)
Solemn sung mass at 10am, solemn choral evensong and benediction at 4pm, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor.

**Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)**
(24 June)
A monthly service with hymns, followed by tea, Langbridge Chapel, Lower Newchurch, 4pm.

**167th chapel anniversary**
(15 July)
Special commemoration followed by a birthday tea, Langbridge Chapel, Lower Newchurch, 4pm.

**Cowes Week balloon rocket launcher**
(11-18 August)
Charity balloon race rocket launcher, Cowes Parade, organised by Rotary Club of Cowes, prizes for three balloons travelled the furthest by 30 September.

**Sung Eucharist**
(12 August)
For the feast of the assumption, All Saints' Church, Godshill, 11am.

**Birthday party celebrating Sir John Betjeman**
(26 August)
Celebrating the life and work of the late Poet Laureate, 4pm onwards, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor.

**Harvest evensong**
(16 September)
A monthly service with hymns, Langbridge Chapel, Lower Newchurch, 4pm.

**Come to see a spectacular collection of classic cars at the International Charity Classic Car Extravaganza, Isle of Wight 2012.**

**Newport Quay, 15 September and Ryde Esplanade, 16 September, both 11am to 5.30pm**

## EXHIBITIONS

**Island Art Group**
(28 June – 3 July)
Exhibition of original paintings from the contemporary to the traditional, Bembridge Village Hall, 10am onwards.

**Timeless and Contemporary**
(1-26 July)
Contemporary ceramics by Andrew Dowden, Old Town Hall, Newtown, 2pm to 5pm.

**What Knot Crafts**
(4 July, 8 August, 5 September)
Exhibition and sale of work by John Steggles, featuring decorative and functional items made by using knotting and macramé techniques, Yarmouth Town Hall, Yarmouth, 10am to 3.30pm.

**Island Art Group**
(20-24 August)
Exhibition of original artwork by a group of Island artists, Seaview Masonic Hall, 10am onwards.

**Ventnor Botanical Artists' autumn exhibition**
(2-10 September)
Exhibition of botanical and floral work, items also for sale, at Quarr Abbey, Binstead, 10.30am to 4.30pm, free entry, website: *www.ventnorbotanicalartists.org.uk*

## FAIRS & SHOWS

**Isle of Wight Rose, Carnation and Sweet Pea Show**
(23 June)
At Brading Town Hall, 1pm, prizegiving 4.30pm.

**Isle of Wight Society for the Blind Summer Fair**
(7 July)
Stalls, lucky dip, refreshments and more activities to raise funds for the society, Millbrooke House, Carisbrooke Road, Newport 2pm 4.30pm.

**Brook Village and Church Fete**
(14 July)
Village fete, featuring duck races, stalls, games, other entertainment, teas, Brook, 2pm to 4.30pm.

**Craft Fair**
(28 July)
Organised by the Isle of Wight Craft Guild, all items handmade locally, Parish Hall, Newport, 10am to 3.30pm.

**Chillerton Flower Show**
(28 July)
Horticultural marquee, entertainment, children's fancy dress, craft stalls, sideshows, refreshments, Sheat Manor, Chillerton, 2pm to 5pm.

**Isle of Wight Fuchsia Show**
(28-29 July)
At Oakfield Primary School, Ryde, 2pm to 5pm (28 July), 10am to 4.30pm (29 July).

**Isle of Wight Jaguar Classic Car Show**
(29 July)
See a fine collection of Jaguars, also live music and other entertainments, Isle of Wight Steam Railway, Havenstreet, 10am to 4pm.

**RSPCA Isle of Wight branch gala day**
(29 July)
Dog show, dog agility, dog displays, grand raffle, many stalls, refreshments, RSPCA Animal Centre, Godshill, 11am to 4pm.

**Jubilee Fete**
(1 August)
Fete at All Saints' Church, Godshill, 12 noon to 4pm.

**Jigsaw Puzzle Festival**
(13-18 August)
Hundreds of made up jigsaw puzzles on display and for sale, St James' Church, East Cowes, 10am to 4pm, Weds and Thur evening 6.30pm to 8.30pm, admission adults £1.50, accompanied children free (unaccompanied 50p).

**Wolverton Manor Garden Fair**
(1-2 September)
Popular fair, with horticultural nurseries, entertainments, Tudor re-enactment, food and drink, Wolverton Manor, 10am to 5pm each day, tickets £6, contact Jane Patterson, tel: 740609.

**International Charity Classic Car Extravaganza, Isle of Wight 2012**
(15-16 September)
A spectacular collection of classic cars, at Newport Quay (15 Sept), at Ryde Esplanade (16 Sept), more than 700 vehicles on display, 11am to 5.30pm, proceeds at Newport to St Catherine's School, Ventnor and at Ryde to Earl Mountbatten Hospice, Newport.

## MEETINGS

**Sandown Bay Diabetes Support Group**
(monthly)
Meeting on the third Thursday each month, informative talks by medical professionals and discussions on matters relating to diabetes, Methodist Church Hall, York Road, Sandown, 7.30pm, contact Sharon Merrick, tel: 400336.

**British Airways' Retired Staff Association**
(monthly)
Meeting on the third Wednesday each month, coffee morning, the White Lion, Arreton, 11am.

**National Federation of the Blind UK**
(monthly)
Meeting of the Island branch on the last Saturday each month, Riverside Centre, Newport, 10.30am.

**Island Concert Band**
(monthly)
Rehearsal on the first Thursday each month, Newport Scout Hut, 7.30pm, new players welcome from 21 years and over, call Rachel or Robin Tweddle for more details, tel: 297970 or 07769 651106.

**Voxpop rock and pop choir**
(monthly)
Meeting each Wednesday, new singers welcome, no auditions or need to read music, songs from 50s to 90s, at

parish rooms, Town Lane, Newport, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, visit *www.voxpopchoir.co.uk*

**Action on Hearing Loss**
(monthly)
Hear to Meet coffee mornings, offering a chance to share experiences, aimed at those who are deaf or hard of hearing, all welcome, at Salvation Army Hall, Newport (second Monday, 11am to 12.30pm), St Michael's Church, Ryde (third Wednesday, 10.30am to 12 noon), West Wight and Community Centre, Freshwater (second Tuesday, 11am to 12.30pm).

**Royal Naval Association**
(monthly)
Meeting on the first Tuesday, for ex-members of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, WRNS and RFA, Simeon Arms, Ryde, 7.30pm.

## MUSIC

**Wolverton Manor Concerts**
(16 June)
'Sounds About Wight', a concert of Island musicians perform in aid of Leukaemia Research, Wolverton Manor, 7.30pm, contact Mark Patterson, tel: 740609.

**Wolverton Manor Concerts**
(23 June)
Two pianists and four hands, Richard Saxel and Faith Lea Petter playing one piano, in aid of Leukaemia Research, Wolverton Manor, 7.30pm, contact Mark Patterson, tel: 740609.

**Newchurch Male Voice Choir**
(23 June)
Evening concert, St Michael's Church, Shalfleet, 7.30pm.

**The Orpheus Singers Concert, with brass ensemble**
(30 June)
Music with a royal connection, and works by Bruckner, Dvorak and Mendelssohn, All Saints' Church, Ryde, 7pm, tickets £10, contact Anne Burnett, tel: 730116, proceeds after expenses to the Earl Mountbatten Hospice, Newport.

**Voxpop rock and pop choir – Last Night of the Proms concert**
(1 July)
Voxpop perform your favourite chart songs, rousing classic anthems, Medina Theatre, Newport, contact box office, tel: 527020.

**Concert by the Troy Players**
(14 July)
Easy listening music for strings, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 7.30pm, admission free, retiring collection.

**Newchurch Male Voice Choir concert**
(14 July)
With invited guests, in aid of the choir and local charities, Newchurch Community Hall, Newchurch, 7.30pm.

Don't miss the train!

**Curtain Up Amateur Dramatic Society presents an adaptation of the Ealing comedy.**

**Totland Church Hall, 7.30pm, 21 to 23 June and 2.30pm, 24 June**

## TALKS

**Wonderworks and the art of illusion**
(26 June)
A decorative and fine arts society lecture by Bertie Pearce, a whistle stop tour of the history of mystery from 3,000 BC to the present day, Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm, contact Judith Hook, tel: 854322.

**Wolverton Manor special talk**
(21 July)
Lady Aurelia Young will talk about her father Oscar Nemon, the famous sculptor, a special talk in aid of Leukaemia Research, Wolverton Manor, 7.30pm, contact Mark Patterson, tel: 740609.

**Louis Pasteur and the rabies virus**
(10 October)
A talk to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association by Tim Mason, Portsmouth University, at the Congregational Church, Pyle Street, Newport, 7.30pm, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410.

## THEATRE

**Oklahoma!**
(8-10 June)
Ventnor Theatre Group presents Oklahoma! as part of its 40th anniversary celebrations, Shanklin Theatre, 7.30pm (8 and 9 June), 2pm (9 and 10 June), tickets £12 adults, £10 under-16s and concessions, contact box office, tel: 868000, *www.shanklintheatre.com*

**The Titfield Thunderbolt**
(21-24 June)
Curtain Up Amateur Dramatic Society presents an adaptation of the legendary Ealing comedy, Totland Church Hall, 7.30pm (2.30pm on 24 June), tickets £6 from The Cabin, Freshwater, Freshwater Bay Post Office, Faith, Hope and Charity in Totland and Harwoods, Yarmouth, tel: 754654 or 755710.

**Gypsy**
(4-14 July)
Musical play of the life of Gypsy Rose Lee, with music by Jule Styne and Stephen Sondheim, Apollo Theatre, Newport, 7.30pm.

These listings are provided free, as a public information service. Details must be submitted either by: **filling out this form, or emailing your details to *oneisland@iow.gov.uk***

Please conform to the format shown. Entries are included at the editorial team's discretion. Next scheduled edition: 28 September (listings for period 28 September to 31 December).

Title of event/activity: _____

Date: _____

Brief description: _____

Venue: _____

Time: _____

Contact name: _____

Telephone: _____

*Please return* ***(by 31 August)*** *to:* **Time & Place, One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Team, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD or email to** *oneisland@iow.gov.uk*